

ENGLISH TEXT

Education is the single best investment nations can make to build prosperous, healthy and equitable societies. Education gives hope and confidence in the future. It sets people on a path towards fulfilling ones dreams. Governments have to give hope to those who know "Educational deprivation" today – the 61 million children who are out of school, the hundreds of million who lack opportunities for quality learning. They are 775 million adults in the world who cannot read and write.

The parents living in places recovering from war or natural disaster want their children back in school. They understand that this is the basic building block of every society.

Education is facing a crisis. There is a "Learning deficit" of those in and out of school – that poses huge challenges for suitable development. This is of great concern. The total number of children and youth out of primary and lower secondary school make 131 million. They could make the tenth largest country on earth if concentrated in one location.

Sub – Saharan Africa accounts for half of the world's total out of school. What is more worrying is that, according to recent data released by UNESCO, there are more children out of school in Sub – Saharan Africa today than three years ago. Nevertheless Africa has made progress since 2000. Enrolment has increased and the gender parity gap has narrowed. In the Democratic Republic of Congo the policy "Girls and boys all to school" is an answer to stimulate the parents and help the children to love going to school.

The growing number of success stories across Africa indicates that progress is attainable. They bring the dividends of investing in education. So there must be a new initiative : "Education first", to put education at the heart of the social, political and development agenda. Education first will focus on three areas : putting every child in school, improving the quality of learning and fostering global citizenship.

Education provides far more than an entry point for the job market; education brings shared values to life. Education can help us live together by promoting mutual understanding, tolerance and respect. It is also a pathway towards living in harmony with our planet and those we share it with.

QUESTIONS ON THE TEXT

1. Indicate the title which best suits the fourth paragraph of the above text.

1. Decline in Education.
2. Education in Africa and in the world.
3. Education as a priority.
4. Education : hope for nations.
5. Rising and falling rate of school population.

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2. Sub – Saharan Africa needs a great investment in Education because it :

1. helps people to accomplish their projects.
2. accounts for half of the world's school population out of school.
3. leads people to lack quality learning.
4. permits to nations to form a good population.
5. brings shared values to life.

3. The role of Education for people is to :

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| 1. provide an entry point for the job market. | 4. get their children back to school. |
| 2. send all girls and all boys to school. | 5. give hope to people who are missing education. |
| 3. launch a new initiative in education. | |

4. "The half of the population which does not go to school is in the south of Sahara." This idea is located in the paragraph :

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| 1. one. | 2. two. | 3. three. | 4. four. | 5. five. |
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5. "The Education deprivation" intends to :

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| 1. outline the lack of right of children to education. | 4. explain the crisis which affects education. |
| 2. improve the quality of learning. | 5. encourage children to go to school. |
| 3. reduce the gender parity gap. | |

6. The word « They » underlined in the fifth paragraph of the text refers to :

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| 1. adults. | 2. parents. | 3. children and youth. | 4. success stories. | 5. equitable societies. |
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